# State Freight Plan and Rail System Plan

Offices of Systems Planning and Rail Transportation

Freight Advisory Council
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#### Outline

- Joint timeline
- State Freight Plan
  - Status
  - Freight mobility issues follow-up
  - Freight highway project evaluation concept
- Rail System Plan
  - Overview
  - RFP update
- Future input needs

# Development timeline

Combined Plan Development	2015												2016				
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
Overall																	
Rail System Plan (RAIL)																	
State Freight Strategic/Implementation Plan (FREIGHT)																	
Purpose, Goals, and Objectives																	
Develop Purpose, Strategic Goals, and Objectives for the Freight System																	
Develop Vision, Goals, and Objectives for the Rail System																	
Roles of the Systems																	
Develop Economic Context of Freight Transportation Planning																	
Develop Conceptual Analysis of Rail Transportation's Role within the System																	
Governance Structures and Programs																	
Identify Freight Programs and Institutions																	
Identify Governance Structure, Authority for Financing, and Initiatives																	
Inventory of the Systems																	
Describe and Inventory Existing Freight Transportation Assets																	
Describe and Inventory Existing Rail Systems																	
Describe Conditions and Performance of the Freight Transportation System																	
Identify Rail Needs and Opportunities																	
Identify Freight Trends, Forecasts, and Issues																	
Identify Rail Trends and Forecasts																	
Strategies, Initiatives, and Projects																	
Identify and Develop Decision Making Process																	
Develop Strategic Solutions, Freight Improvement Strategies, and Projects List																	
Develop Rail Service and Investment Program																	
Assess Funding and Institutional Strategies for Implementation																	
Outreach and Public Input																	
Conduct Stakeholder and Public Outreach																	
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Describe Coordination and Review Processes																	
45-Day Public Input Period																	
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### Status of the State Freight Plan

- Develop strategic goals and objectives
- Identify and document the economic importance
- Inventory existing assets
- Describe conditions of the system and develop performance measures
- Document freight trends and issues
- Project freight-related forecasts
- Identify and develop the decision making process
- Develop strategic solutions, improvement strategies, and a prioritized project list

#### Freight mobility issues follow-up

- Highway, railroad, waterway, and operational/regulatory bottleneck identification
- June FAC exercise
- Freight Mobility Issue Survey
- Results
- Next steps

#### Freight project evaluation concept

- Value, Condition, and Performance (VCAP) matrix
- Tools
  - Freight bottleneck identification
  - iTRAM statewide traffic demand model
  - Infrastructure Condition Evaluation (ICE)
  - Freight network optimization study
  - Location of multimodal facilities
- Process
- Other modes

# Overview of Rail System Plan

- US DOT recommend updates occur every 5 years
- This update will include required FRA documentation
  - Role of Rail
  - Existing Rail System
  - Proposed Passenger Rail & Freight Rail Improvements/Investments
  - State's Rail Service and Investment Program
  - Linking the State Rail Plan and State Freight Plan
  - Coordination

# Overview of Rail System Plan

- Anticipate effort will go beyond the guidance = more comprehensive and robust plan
  - Unique issues to Iowa
  - Identify rail-dependent commodities and industries
  - Identify essential rail corridors by commodity
  - Recommend how to enable short line railroads to better support Iowa's economic development efforts
  - Look at abandonments more closely
  - Identify public benefits of the rail system and public investment to the rail system
  - Identify railroad needs and priorities (identified by those public and private partners)
  - Identify solutions to rail system bottlenecks

# Consultant Request for Proposals Update

- Request for proposals February
- Received proposals
- In-person interviews early April
- Consultant contracted end of April

#### Future input needs

- Conditions of the system
- Performance measures
- Industry trends and issues
- Solutions and implementation strategies
- Project prioritization process
- Individual interviews
- Reaching out to a wider range of industry stakeholders

#### Questions?

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